

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

CONFIDENTIAL

TOPIC INTELLIGENCE
Falkensee Air Force Headquarters25X1 _____ 25X1
EVALUATION _____ PLACE OBTAINED _____

DATE OF CONTENT December 1951 to 24 January 1952

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25X1 DATE OBTAINED _____ PREPARED 20 February 1952

25X1 REFERENCES _____

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS _____

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SOURCE _____

1. Between December 1951 and 14 January 1952, the Falkensee restricted area was occupied by a Soviet Air Force headquarters which maintained liaison with the airfields at Doeberitz and Staaken. The commander of the headquarters was a general, about 35 years old and 1.7 meters tall. He was permanently accompanied by a Soviet sergeant. The sergeant had accompanied the general on leave in the U.S.S.R. There were about 30 officers including about 50 colonels, 1 lieutenant colonel, who was probably the adjutant and charged with the hiring of personnel, 4 other lieutenant colonels, 1 major who was a paymaster and known as chief book-keeper, Captain Tsas (fmu) who was about 40 years old, a Jew and called commander, a few captains, senior lieutenants and lieutenants, and 3 medical officers having the rank of lieutenant colonel, major and senior lieutenant. * In addition to these officers, 40 to 45 sentries and drivers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets were also stationed in the restricted area.

2. The restricted area is surrounded by a board fence 2 meters high. There is only one entrance to the south. Most of the buildings are one-family houses which are occupied to approximately one third of their capacity. Prior to 15 November 1951, most of the Soviet officers dependents were also quartered in the restricted area. However, about 15 November, the dependents had to return to the U.S.S.R.** The officers in the headquarters building probably worked in two or three groups

Briefings which were attended by all officers were held in a large office about every second day. Offices were on 25X1 the second floor of the headquarters building.

3. The EM took their meals in the mess-hall while the officers ate in the officers' club

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The guard detail of about 15 soldiers was relieved in the sun or and in the winter. At night, the garages were watched by two police dogs which were leashed on long chains suspended from a cable which was strung between the two garages at a height of 6 meters. About 12 drivers were also stationed in the restricted area.

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4. In the restricted area there was a shop for Soviet soldiers which was managed by a Soviet sergeant and another shop managed by Germans and run by the Brandenburg Consumers' Association (KVB), Hauptamt Zentralversorgung III (Main Department for Supplies) at 16 Helene Lange Strasse, Potsdam. Prior to March 1951, the latter shop had been under Soviet administration. It was closed on Mondays and open the

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other days [redacted] except for Sundays when it was open from [redacted] [redacted] Goods on sale there included textiles, foot wear, household utensiles, jewelry and gifts. Since the quality of the goods had deteriorated considerably, the former monthly sale of about 42,000 DM diminished to an average of 19,000 DM per month. Most sales were made between 5 and 10 of the month when the officers and soldiers received their pay. The Russians set a great value on high quality merchandise. They usually packed the purchased articles into boxes and sent them to the U.S.S.R. By about the middle of the month, officers and men had usually spent their money and borrowed in the shop for further purchases.

5. The shop received supplies twice a week from the distribution point in Elstal which was about 500 meters northwest of the former Richthofen Kaserne in Boeberitz. The Elstal distribution point was established on 1 December 1951. The distribution point had formerly been located in the former Richthofen Kaserne. Soviet Junior Lieutenant Karoshev (fnu) (phonetic spelling) issued the goods at the Elstal distribution point. The Elstal distribution point which was supplied by the main distribution point in Norder at the former ordnance depot, regularly supplied a store at Schoenwalde airfield and in Elstal, probably for the local airfield. The distribution point in the former Richthofen Kaserne also supplied stores both at Staaken airfield and in the Richthofen Kaserne. ***

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b. On 10 January, source observed that not all of the houses in Falkensee restricted area were occupied by air force troops. [redacted]

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[redacted] No radio installation was observed. A room in the Falkensee telephone exchange, which was fitted with relays, was occupied by air force troops. This room probably housed a switchboard which was probably operated by personnel of the air force headquarters.

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* [redacted] Comment. Captain Tsas is believed to be identical with Captain Sas who was previously reported as the chief of the supply unit. [redacted]

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** [redacted] Comment. It is possible that the partial evacuation of the Falkensee restricted area is connected with the transfer of headquarters officers. In this connection some officers with their dependents left for the U.S.S.R. However, the general occupation of the GA Corps Hq may not have changed.

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*** [redacted] Comment. Some statements by source I agree with previous information, while others contain new information on military activity in the restricted area which is occupied by the GA Corps Hq of the Twenty-Fourth Air Army. [redacted]

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